

**What is claimed is:**

- 1 1. An apparatus for treating ocular disease comprising:
  - 2 a locating means for non-invasively locating Schlemm's Canal in an eye, and
  - 3 a microsurgical device coupled with the locating means so as to advance the
  - 4 microsurgical device into a tissue space identified with Schlemm's Canal.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the microsurgical device is under control by the
- 2 locating means.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises a device for
- 2 ultrasound examination of the sclera.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises an ultrasound imaging
- 2 system.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises a non-imaging
- 2 ultrasound detection system.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises an ultrasound device
- 2 for examination of the sclera with an ultrasound frequency greater than 10 MHz.
- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises an ultrasound device
- 2 for examination of the sclera with an ultrasound frequency of at least 40 MHz.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the locating means utilizes an ultrasound contrast
- 2 tracer introduced into the aqueous humor.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises a non-imaging
- 2 ultrasound device for examination of the sclera.

- 1    10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the locating means comprises a transducer  
2    assembly with signaling means for directing the transducer location.
- 1    11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the locating means comprises an optical imaging  
2    device for non-invasively locating Schlemm's Canal in the eye.
- 1    12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device comprises a high  
2    intensity white light illumination source.
- 1    13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device comprises an optically  
2    coherent illumination source.
- 1    14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device comprises a fiber optic  
2    device.
- 1    15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device utilizes detection via  
2    visible wavelengths of light.
- 1    16. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device utilizes detection via  
2    infrared wavelengths.
- 1    17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the optical imaging device utilizes optical  
2    imaging of a fluorescent tracer in the aqueous humor.
- 1    18. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a tissue contacting surface of the locating means is  
2    curved to approximate the surface of the eye.

1       19. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a tissue contacting surface of the locating means  
2       incorporates a circumferential raised portion to maintain placement of a coupling fluid  
3       over a transducer face to aid in energy transfer between the locating means and the tissue  
4       surface.

1       20. An apparatus for treating ocular disease comprising:  
2           a non-invasive locating means for locating Schlemm's Canal in the eye, and  
3           a microcannula coupled with the locating means so as to slidably advance into a  
4       tissue space identified with Schlemm's Canal.

1       21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the microcannula has an outer diameter of less  
2       than 200 microns.

1       22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the microcannula is coupled to the locating means  
2       at an angle between 0 and 30 degrees from the plane of Schlemm's Canal in the eye.

1       23. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein an angle of the microcannula with respect to the  
2       locating means is adjustable.

1       24. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the locating means and the microcannula are  
2       disposed within a unitary body.

1       25. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the microcannula is coupled to the locating means  
2       by way of a clip mechanism.

1       26. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein a distal portion of the microcannula is curved to  
2       accommodate a curvature of Schlemm's Canal.

1       27. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the microcannula incorporates a cutting tip to  
2       penetrate a sclera of the eye.

1       28. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the microcannula is comprised of an outer sheath  
2       and an inner cannula.

1       29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the inner cannula incorporates a cutting tip to  
2       penetrate a sclera of the eye.

1       30. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the outer sheath is comprised of a rigid tube.

1       31. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the outer sheath is comprised of a flexible tube.

1       32. An apparatus for treating ocular disease comprising:  
2           a non-invasive locating means for locating Schlemm's Canal,  
3           a microcannula which is linked with the locating means to advance the microcannula  
4           into an identified tissue space for Schlemm's Canal, and  
5           a dilation mechanism at the tip of the microcannula.

1       33. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the dilation mechanism is comprised of an  
2       expandable balloon.

1       34. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the dilation mechanism is comprised of an  
2       expandable tip on the microcannula.

1       35. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the dilation mechanism is comprised of a series of  
2       nested cannulae having successively larger diameters.

1       36. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the dilation mechanism is comprised of an  
2       elongate rod having steps of successively increasing diameters.

1    37. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the microcannula is coupled coaxially with the  
2    locating means.

1    38. An apparatus for treating ocular disease comprising:  
2        a non-invasive locating means for locating Schlemm's Canal,  
3        a microcannula which is linked with the locating means to advance the microcannula  
4        into an identified tissue space for Schlemm's Canal, and  
5        an implant which is delivered into Schlemm's Canal .

1    39. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the implant comprises an expandable stent.

1    40. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the implant comprises microparticles.

1    41. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the implant comprises a drug releasing material.

1    42. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the stent comprises a biodegradable material.

1    43. The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the microparticles comprise a biodegradable  
2    material.

1    44. The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the drug releasing material contains a drug  
2    effective in the treatment of glaucoma.

1    45. An apparatus for treating ocular disease comprising:  
2        a non-invasive locating means for locating Schlemm's Canal,  
3        a microcannula which is linked with the locating means to advance the microcannula  
4        into an identified tissue space for Schlemm's Canal, and

5       a construct which is delivered through the microcannula to effect a surgical procedure  
6       on a trabecular meshwork of the eye.

1       46. The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the construct comprises a surgical tool for cutting  
2       tissues.

1       47. The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the construct comprises a fiber optic device.

1       48. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the fiber optic device is an imaging fiber.

1       49. The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the fiber optic device is an illuminating fiber.

1       50. A method for surgically accessing Schlemm's Canal for treating ocular disease,  
2       comprising:

3           locating Schlemm's Canal in an eye via non-invasive means;  
4           advancing a minimally invasive surgical device into the canal guided by the locating  
5           means;  
6           delivering a substance for the treatment of the ocular disease.

1       51. The method of claim 50, wherein Schlemm's Canal is located using ultrasound  
2       imaging.

1       52. The method of claim 50, wherein Schlemm's Canal is located using optical means.

1       53. The method of claim 50, wherein ultrasound imaging is utilized.

1       54. The method of claim 50, wherein non-imaging ultrasound guidance is utilized.

- 1    55. The method of claim 52, wherein high intensity white light is utilized.
- 1    56. The method of claim 52, wherein a coherent light source is utilized.
- 1    57. The method of claim 52, wherein visible light detection is utilized.
- 1    58. The method of claim 52, wherein infrared light detection is utilized.
- 1    59. The method of claim 50, wherein the surgical device is a cannula between 50 and 250  
2    microns in diameter.
- 1    60. The method of claim 50, wherein the substance is a viscoelastic material.
- 1    61. The method of claim 50, wherein the substance is a gas.
- 1    62. The method of claim 50, wherein the substance is a fluorocarbon compound.
- 1    63. The method of claim 50, wherein the substance comprises a drug releasing substance.